

OVER HERE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF U. S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, NO. 3.

Volume I.

Rahway, N. J., March 7, 1919.

No. 15.

60 Dollar Payment For The Discharged

All Persons Serving In Military Forces in Present War Are Included

The War Department authorizes the following statement from the Director of Finance:

Section 1406 of the revenue act approved February 24, 1919, authorizes the payment of a bonus of \$60 to officers, soldiers, field clerks, and nurses of the Army upon honorable separation from active service by discharge, resignation, or otherwise. This bonus is not payable to the heirs or representatives of any deceased soldier.

Those who are discharged hereafter will receive this bonus on the same roll or voucher upon which they are paid their final pay.

Those who have been discharged and have received their final pay without the \$60 bonus should write a letter to the Zone Finance Officer, Lemon Building, Washington, D. C., stating their service since April 6, 1917, the date of last discharge, and their present address to which they desire their bonus checks to be sent and inclosing with this letter their discharge certificate or military order for discharge or both, if both were issued.

Upon the receipt by the Zone Finance Officer, Washington, D. C., of this information and the soldier's discharge certificate, this officer will cause checks to be drawn and mailed to the claimants in the order in which their claims were received by him. The discharge certificate will be returned to the soldier with the check.

It is estimated that at least one million and a quarter persons have been discharged from the service who are entitled to the benefits of this act, and while payments will be made as expeditiously as practicable, it will manifestly take considerable time to write and mail this many checks.

SPEAKING OF CARRYING ON.

The Red Cross Motor Unit had another busy month during February. During the 28 days of that month the Motor Unit carried 12,000 people, making a total of 40,000 passengers carried by the Unit in three months. Is it any wonder Lieutenant Van Deventer wears a worried look occasionally? Think of running a taxi-stand for 12,000 people, all of whom are trying to catch the 5:07 train.

Miss Rennyson is Chief of the Home Service Aides at the Red Cross House. Miss Isabel D. Hunter is Chief Aide.



MISS JOSEPHINE M. SWENSON
Chief Nurse

When it is remembered that the only purpose of an army hospital is the treating of sick and wounded soldiers, and that nurses are indispensable in the successful management of a hospital, it follows that the position of Chief Nurse is of extreme importance. Miss Swenson has had a busy and successful career since coming here from Lakewood last June. She is largely responsible for the organization of the large staff of

competent nurses to be found here—in fact she is credited with being an active worker in the cause of the hospital even in the days before it was built. Miss Swenson is in direct charge of a large staff of nurses, student nurses, experts in various lines, and aides—excepting only the Occupational Aides. She was graduated from the New York Post Graduate School in 1909 and was superintendent of hospitals and training schools for eight years.

Total Number D. S. Crosses Awarded to American Men

The Chief of Staff has made public a table showing the number of Distinguished Service Crosses awarded to the different divisions of the American Expeditionary Forces. These figures show that the Second Regular Army Division had Distinguished Services Crosses awarded to 664 of its members, more than twice the number awarded to any other division. There were 300 crosses awarded to members of the First Regular Army Division. To the 27th National Guard Division, from New York State, 139 crosses were awarded, and 146 to the 77th Draft Army

Division, composed of youths from New York City, trained at Camp Upton. The award of Distinguished Service Crosses by divisions was as follows:

Second, 664; 1st, 300; 3d, 233; 26th, 229; 42d, 205; 30th, 177; 5th, 163; 29th, 150; 77th, 146; 27th, 139; 91st, 134; 89th, 97; 78th, 95; 79th, 80; 33d, 76; 4th, 66; 28th, 58; 90th, 57; 80th, 42; 82d, 34; 7th, 30; 37th, 25; 36th, 24; 92d, 21; 81st, 19; 35th, 17; 6th, 10; 88th, 1.

By branches of the service these crosses were awarded as follows: Infantry, 2,942; Air Service, 251; Medical Corps, 238; Artillery, 183; Engineers, 149; Signal Corps, 50; Tank Corps, 36; others, 70. Total, 3,819.

Warn of Swindlers On Fake Telegrams

War Department Combats Crooks Who Wire to Home Of Discharged Men

Co-operation of army hospital and other newspapers in scotching a contemptible swindle that is being practiced by crooks, with next of kin of soldiers as victims, has been requested by the War Department. Taking advantage of the demobilization of the army and the return of soldiers to civil life, sharpers are swindling friends and relatives of soldiers by a fake call for funds to enable the returning soldier to get home.

Everyone familiar with military administration knows that the discharged soldier does not need to wire home for money to enable him to pay his way. Soldiers are being discharged at a camp as near their home as it is possible to arrange the matter, and when a man is separated from the service he is paid off and given an ample allowance for travel expenses to his home. This fact itself should warn relatives that telegrams they may receive requesting funds should be investigated before they comply with the request.

It is hoped that by a general exposure of this scheme, it may be thwarted the same as a similar fraud was perpetrated upon unsuspecting relatives of soldiers in 1918, when swindlers sent telegrams to the kin of soldiers asking that funds be sent by wire or mailed in care of General Delivery at the postoffice, to enable the soldier to visit his home on a furlough. It is pointed out that there is ordinarily no reason why a soldier should ask to have his mail sent in care of General Delivery, and requests to send funds in this way should bear close scrutiny.

The Postoffice authorities and the Department of Justice are assisting the War Department in an effort to arrest these swindlers, and the breaking up of the ring is confidently expected.

MR. MCKAY LEAVES.

Secretary McKay, of the Y. M. C. A., has resigned his position at the Hospital and has returned to his pastoral duties in charge of the Presbyterian church at Oceanic, N. J. His successor has not been named.

Mr. McKay was given a pleasant surprise at the Y house last week when the "hut mothers," who spend an evening here each week, presented him with an autograph book in which are to be written the names of the boys with whom he has come in contact at the camp. The soldiers at the Hospital presented him with a silver loving cup, suitably engraved.

Mercy House Enlarges Its Building; Accommodate More

The building occupied by the Mercy canteen is undergoing enlargement and improvements. It will be of special interest to those who go to Mercy House for a meal, to learn that the kitchen is one section of the house that is being enlarged. This will make it possible to install larger cooking facilities and should enable Mercy House to take care of even bigger crowds than have been patronizing the house.

The second floor of the new addition will be used as sleeping quarters for relatives of the men at the Hospital. This will make it possible for the visitors to live beside the Hospital during their stay here.

The permanent staff at Mercy House has been more than successful in looking after the house and seeing that the boys feel at home. February was a record breaking month, although the figures have not yet been compiled.

Mrs. Bennet is hostess of Mercy House and is ably assisted by Mrs. Earl, Miss Anne Alioth and Miss Edith Berdan. Each day there is a new staff of volunteer workers who come from their homes in nearby towns and spend the day waiting on table.

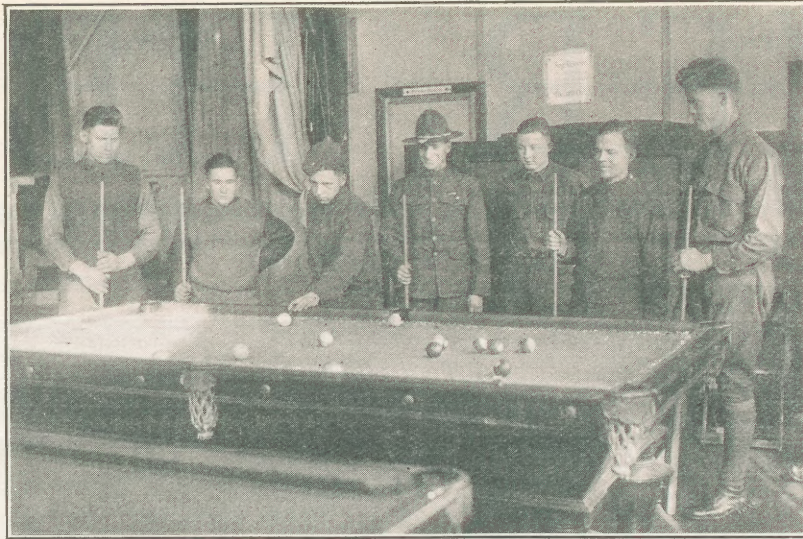
The executive committee of the Mercy Committee includes: Mrs. Charles D. Freeman, president; Mrs. Jabez Gilbert, honorary vice president; Mrs. J. Kirtland Myers, vice president; Mrs. Fred H. Albee, vice president; Mrs. Henry C. Irons, treasurer; Mrs. William C. Kinney, assistant secretary; Mrs. Arthur L. Otterson, Miss Mary Rodman, Mrs. Edward K. Cone, Mrs. Edward I. Goodrich, Mrs. Charles McCutchen.

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD.

Most of the men of this Hospital have been missing some splendid dances given by the J. W. B. at its headquarters in Perth Amboy. These dances are arranged for the entertainment of all the men in service in this section of the country and those who have attended have had good times. The dances are given every Wednesday evening. Go to as many as you can and start with the next one.

Friday night the chess lovers of this camp had the opportunity of matching their skill with Charles Jaffe, the chess expert. Mr. Jaffe came to the K. C. building under the auspices of the Jewish Welfare Board and showed some of the cunning that has given him an international reputation. He had worthy opponents and was defeated several times by good work on the part of Lieutenant Moran, of the Dental Department, and Lieutenant Moore, of the Metrotherapy department. The J. W. B. plans to have Mr. Jaffe appear here again.

When soldiers are entertained by girls who know how to entertain, a pleasant evening always results. On Wednesday night the J. W. B. gave a dance at which 50 girls from Perth Amboy, and a good load of eats, were the principal attractions. To the tempting strains of a jazz band, the young people waltzed through the latest one-steps and trotted the newest waltzes.



PATIENTS HAVING A GAME IN THE RED CROSS HOUSE

—Photo by Private Andrees, Ward 9.

RED CROSS.

The program this week offered vaudeville Sunday and Thursday evenings. Movies were shown Monday and Tuesday evenings. On Wednesday the patients enjoyed another "amputation dance."

Tomorrow (Saturday) night the Harrison works of the Edison Lamp Works will entertain 50 men.

The usual quota of patients enjoyed the weekly luncheon given at the Union League Club, New York. One hundred men were guests of Proctor's Theatre, Newark, during the week.

February 12, the Matlack Minstrels of Plainfield will give their performance at the Red Cross House.

The Oak Farm Dramatic Club, of Plainfield, will present "Oak Farm" on the evening of the 11th.

DANCE AT CROSS KEYS.

Henry O. Nute, proprietor of Cross Keys Inn, Rahway, and Mrs. Nute entertained Saturday night at a dance given to the Aides of this Hospital. Reports made by those who attended are that it was an unusually pleasant evening and that Mr. and Mrs. Nute outdid their reputation for hospitality.

NEW J. W. B. REPRESENTATIVE.

William Siegel, the new representative here of the Jewish Welfare Board, has taken charge of his work with enthusiasm and during his brief time has arranged and scheduled several entertainments for the amusement of those living in the Post. He hopes to carry out the J. W. B. program of giving the boys everything possible in the way of entertainment, advice through well organized agencies, personal service and any other assistance. The J. W. B. quarters are in the K. of C. building, where Mr. Siegel hopes to meet everyone.

Mr. Siegel is a young man and a graduate of the University of Virginia, where he received the degrees B. A. and M. A. He was in the military service until the close of the war when he was discharged from the Field Artillery Training School at Camp Taylor.

NOTICE TO EAGLES.

All Eagles at this Hospital are requested to give their names and aerie numbers to Dan Donovan in Ward 5. A representative from the Elizabeth aerie will look after their affairs through the Elizabeth organization.

And They Call 'Em The Weaker Sex

The Hard Sergeant picked up the telephone receiver and prepared to roar his order, as usual. He was going to shout, "Gimme the Orderly Office and shake it up too do you hear"—for punctuation means nothing in the life of a Sergeant.

But he changed his plans, all of a sudden. He was intensely disturbed by the voice that answered him. It was a feminine voice and it gave indications that its owner was pleasant and good natured and perfectly willing to put through the number without any argument. The voice said, "Number, please."

The Sarj almost forgot the number he wanted. A thousand canaries sang in his soul. A feather seemed to be tickling the edges of his mouth, causing them to turn upwards for the first time in months. His grouch floated away on a sea of maple syrup. He was completely siren-squed.

"Why, ah, will you ring the Orderly Office, if you please," he said.

And thus the transformation spread throughout the camp as soon

as it was discovered that the switchboard had been turned over to feminine hands—in the day time, at least. Office workers who were accustomed to answering the 'phone by groaning, "Zumpff office; Private Awhaw speaking," now have acquired the habit of talking distinctly and as though they found pleasure in the task.

Now, there is nothing in Army Regulations providing for the employment of fair telephone operators; nor is there anything forbidding it. Hence, we have with us Miss Kathryn Miller, of Elizabeth, who ventured into a camp of two thousand men and likes her job.

Think of it, men! All this temperamental improvement was accomplished since the arrival of a feminine operator. Is it any wonder that a second switchboard was installed and another girl employed?

Which only goes to prove—however, we'll let you write your own moral.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Major W. B. Hayes, late of the 210th Engineers, has been assigned to this post for temporary observation of the work of the Educational Service. Major Hayes has been permanently assigned to U. S. A. General Hospital No. 31, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, as Chief of the Educational Service.

A. C. Manning, Captain S. C., has reported for duty in the Education Service at this Hospital. Captain Manning comes from Cape May, where he has been Chief of Service for several months.

Captain Amphor, of the Signal Corps, has been assigned to temporary duty here at the School. He has been ordered to Camp Dix as Chief of the Educational Service and will proceed to his new post after a few days of observation here.

THE FIGHTING Q. M. C.

On the land owned by Major Freeman,

On uptown Colonia's Isle
Stands the U. S. General Hospital,
Where we've been for quite
a while.

We're a bunch of homesick soldiers,
As homesick as can be,
All waiting for the discharge,—
Of the fighting Q. M. C.

We want to go home to mother,
And see the old home town.
So hand us a discharge,
And watch us turn it down.

—Corporal J. F. O., Q. M. C.

NATIONAL SERVICE CANTEEN.

The first of the Monday entertainments to be held at the new National Service Canteen took place this week and drew a good attendance of patients and Detachment men.

The afternoon program offered some exceptional talent, arranged for by Mrs. W. R. Royce, resident hostess. Interesting readings were given by Mrs. Jones, who has recently returned from France, where she entertained at various camps. Miss Stevens sang and Miss Miller presided at the piano. An exceptionally interesting number was the dancing of little Miss Mary McCoy, of Elizabeth. Her ability aroused the enthusiasm of the men.

The afternoon program was exclusively for the patients, about 100 being present. The dance in the evening was for all at the Hospital, and the Detachment was represented on this occasion.

Early in the evening there were a couple of quadrilles specially for the men who are just learning to use artificial limbs. They proved such a success that before long some of the men who have not yet received their new legs, joined in a "Paul Jones" and remained to the very end by doing some quick and graceful hopping on one foot.

There will be another afternoon and evening program next Monday.

CONGRATULATIONS.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Judson L. Stewart are the parents of a newly arrived baby who has been keeping the Stewart household wide-awake at odd hours of the day and night. We hope to see the young visitor making a call at the School one of these fine spring days.

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"OVER HERE"

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Rahway, N. J.

Published Every Friday

By authority of the Surgeon General of the Army

Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Upshur

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant John F. Reilly, Chaplain, Advisor

Sergeant W. E. Conway, Editor

Private Edward S. Bessman, Advertising Manager

All copy for Over Here must be in the hands
of the Editor not later than Saturday night of
each week.

Friday, March 7, 1919.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Sunday

6:15 a. m. Mass for Catholics..Chaplain Reilly

8:30 a. m. Mass for Catholics.. " "

10:30 a. m. Protestant Services..Chaplain Leach

All above services are held in

Physico Therapy Gymnasium

7:30 p. m. Evening Service in Y. M. C. A.

Friday

6:30 p. m. Jewish Services in K. of C. Building.

* * * * *

A MEDICAL VIEW

OF THE "OBJECTOR."

After being under the observation of psychiatrists of the Medical Department of the Army the 3,000 prisoners in the disciplinary barracks at Leavenworth who recently went on strike have been duly classified and ticketed. Most of these men called themselves "conscientious objectors" with the purpose of escaping military service. Relatively only a few pleaded religious scruples.

Virtually all of these military offenders, from the viewpoint of the medical experts, were of exceptional types. After their medical condition had been studied they were divided into three groups. First came those—nearly two-thirds of the whole number—who defied the law "from an excessively eccentric personality;" in other words, men who were "individualistic, opinionated, self-willed or vain to an extreme degree." Presumably in any circumstances where they were subjected to discipline or authority they would be found in conflict with those about them and justifying themselves as of superior intelligence. They are of a type of which our parlor Bolshevik and soap-box school of orators furnish many examples. As social practitioners they have cures for all sorts of earthly ills except that from which they suffer. Some of them get into the courts, more of them into the newspapers; notoriety and self-exploitation is the dearest end of their existence.

The two minor groups among the prisoners at Leavenworth comprised men "of extreme intelligence." The medical examiners of the local boards and the army doctors at the camps rejected hundreds of men for these

very reasons. In the main they were unfit for military service because of psychopathic conditions.

Upon the "conscientious objector," in the honest sense, much sympathy had been expended since the beginning of the draft, as the victim of a harsh and cruel system. In the light of the investigation made at Leavenworth by the Medical Department of the Army, it might seem that false sentimentality has played too large a part in the campaign.

* * * * *

IT'S MERELY COMMON SENSE.

"There is no mystery about the work of retraining war disabled men, so as to make them 'efficient,' declares Dr. Charles A. Prosser, Director of the federal board for vocational education. "It is simply the application of good common sense education and good judgment. It is merely the utilization of the abilities remaining to the disabled man, which can be so trained as in most cases to be just as effective if not more so, than the ones which he lost by reason of his injuries."

It is surprising the number of things a man is capable of doing. If he has been engaged in an occupation which requires the use of his leg, such as operating a foot power press, he does not throw away his trade knowledge, but he is educated to use his hand, or perhaps the stump of his leg by means of a special adjustment, and can continue doing that which he knows best just as well as before he received his injury, or if he is disinclined to continue that work, he is re-educated for some other phase of the same industry which he knows well, and which appeals to him, thus preserving his trade knowledge.

This re-education is given in the various industries and factories as well as in the leading technical and trade schools of the country. It is absolutely free to the disabled man; if he is single, he is given \$65 a month support fund, all other expenses being paid, and if married or there are other dependents, a larger allowance is made.

* * * * *

THE HEART OF A SOLDIER.

It was the way of the oldtime pacifist to mumble "Fe, fo, fi, fum" whenever the name of a military man was mentioned. Every general was held up as a bloodthirsty being, yearning for fodder for his beloved cannon, who counted those years lost in which peace prevailed.

Perhaps there have been such generals. But Grant was not such; nor was Lee. And neither is Marshal Foch. It has been a common remark that the Allied leader committed a rare act of self-effacement when he denied himself a military victory on German soil by accepting a truce that amounted to surrender. The personal glory lying across the German frontier was indeed colossal. Yet evidently, from Marshal Foch's words, the temptation

did not weigh in his decision. As he described the situation:

"Doubless any general would have preferred to have continued the struggle and to give battle when the battle which offered itself was so promising, but a father of a family could not but help think of the blood that would be shed. A victory, however easy, costs the lives of men. We held victory in our grasp without any further sacrifice. We took it as it came."

The Marshal's words, thoroughly supported by the record of his actions, go far to prove how removed from pride or blood lust, and how tender and human, is the heart of the true soldier.—N. Y. Tribune.

* * * * *

THE BAND.

When the band comes along the street,
Sometimes it does not play. The drum
Monotonously goes tum-tum,
tum-tum,
tumpety-tum,
To mark the time for marching fett.

But presently a tiny sound
One trumpet makes: and all around
The music things are raised, and then,
I know the band will play again.
And suddenly, as thunder comes,
The horns and trumpets, flutes and drums
Crash into glorious noise, that breaks
All over me in little shakes.

And all inside of me seems to swell
With feelings that I cannot tell.
And I am glad: I can't say why
Just then I almost want to cry.

But when the band is out of sight
And I can hear it far away,
It sounds as my tin bandsmen might,
If they could really play.

—Atlantic Monthly.

* * * * *

The newspapers may refer, fondly, to the Commanding Officer as Fighting Bill or Mighty Mike, but the buck private should not get the habit.

* * * * *

Even though there is a paper shortage, most of us can find material on which to write an application for discharge.

* * * * *

Just wait until you get out of uniform and see what happens the first time you step up to "chin" with a strange girl.

* * * * *

Why, when there is a parade on the avenue, do the police always put the tall people on the curb and the short ones in the rear?

* * * * *

Blondes should make sure that the Peace Conference demands the surrender of the German formula for peroxide.

* * * * *

The firemen wouldn't be so prompt in answering night calls if they wore wrapped leggings.

Fairwold, an Ideal Home For Convalescent Officers

(NOTE—A good many at the Post have wondered where Captain Sellers has been during the last month. All knew that he had been ill, but few have heard of the delightful place in which he was "sentenced" to spend a month while convalescing. Here we present an article written by an Officer friend of Captain Sellers giving a description of Fairwold, the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Cadwalader, at Orelan, Pa. Usually there are 25 officers at the home. The Cadwaladers have turned over their entire home, as this article shows, for the comfort and convenience of their officer-guests.)

There are acres of ground in the Fairwold Estate and no pains have been spared in making it both artistic and beautiful, ever mindful, too, of the practical side of this life, as can be attested by any who have been fortunate enough to partake of the superb "eats" raised in the garden and orchard, or who have enjoyed a draught of the delicious milk from the dairy. No less wonderful is the interior of our "Paradise," the library, in which may be found reading matter adapted to one's every mood, and where, of an evening, one may enjoy seeing the best of moving pictures; the gymnasium, which is provided with a very good dance floor; the spacious dining room with accommodations for thirty-five; the wonderful smoking room; the sun parlor with its large telescope, and the reception room with its Grand Organ, all tend to make words convey but a meager idea of this palace.

Our host, Mr. Cadwalader, is a direct descendant of the family of that name, which has been linked so closely with the history of our country since its infancy, while Mrs. Cadwalader will be remembered in society circles as the charming Miss Roebling, whose family, for generations have been manufacturers of iron and steel products with the envious distinction of having furnished material for many projects of National import, probably the best known of which is the Brooklyn Bridge.

After registering in the Guest's Book, we were immediately informed of the one existing rule of the U. S. Convalescent Hospital No. 1, that is, that every one must be punctual at breakfast, which is served from 6:30 a. m. to 1 p. m. (We would here note that Captain Sellers found it very hard at times to meet the requirements of this strictly enforced ruling.)

For those of the party requiring the services of a massage artist, there is a very proficient staff, headed by Miss Chauvil and Miss Neilson, a Swedish Masseuse of world fame, and Lieutenant Osthaus can attest their efficiency in this beneficial torture. In describing his experience in the hands of Miss Neilson he said, ruefully, "She put her finger in my shoulder and never stopped until it had passed through my diaphragm. I have always heard Swedes were great wrestlers, now I believe it." So in awed tones, Miss Neilson is spoken of as "The Swedish Wrestler."

Captain Sellers, on his arrival, was treated to some jam, and in opening the jam "got into a jam,"—ask him.

The memory of his visit is full of pleasant recollections.

Our esteemed C. O., Mrs. Cadwalader, arranged a most pleasant entertainment for Saturday evening. Once more, the "fair sex" was much in evidence. Boys from the Chestnut Hill School furnished the music, and good music it was, too. Let us here remark that it is wonderful to notice how "girls, good music and a dance floor" affect a temporary cure for those addicted to the use of canes and crutches. We sometimes wonder why the Medicos do not prescribe this remedy as a regular treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Cadwalader exert every effort to keep things moving, and we must say, succeed wonderfully,—between jig-saw puzzles, rounds on the golf course, evenings at cards, a full line of the best smokes, interspersed with parties, entertainments and moving picture exhibitions. We have about concluded that we would go "over there" willingly again, if our going would prove the means of obtaining an endless visit to Fairwold. As it is, in contemplation of our leaving, we have already assigned to the poet of our happy family, the proposition of re-writing an old book,—*"PARADISE LOST."*

ONE OF THE FAMILY.

LAMBS ENTERTAIN.

About 30 patients were entertained Saturday night by members of the Lambs Club, New York. In the afternoon they attended "Sinbad" and at 7 o'clock sat in at a dinner in the club rooms. The Lambs waited on table and deluged the wounded boys with all the good things on the menu. It was quite a treat to have comedians, tragedians and others of the stage world, running around with trays and bringing a second helping of that deep dish pie, with ice cream on the side.

The boys were transported both ways by the Motor Corps of America.

SALE OF INSIGNIA.

The sale of unauthorized service ribbons and gold and silver stars is the subject of the following statement by the War Department:

"It has been brought to the attention of the War Department that post exchanges and similar places are selling insignia such as unauthorized service ribbons and gold and silver stars to be worn on the uniform."

"Responsible officers will take immediate steps to have such practices discontinued by post exchanges and stores under their immediate jurisdiction. At the same time every effort will be made to influence stores located near posts, camps or stations to discontinue the practice."

ATHLETIC PAGEANT.

An athletic pageant will be held Friday night in the Second Regiment Armory, Elizabeth. One of the interesting events will be a 1200-yard relay race between the Battin High School and a team from this Hospital.

PRISON OFFICER.

Capt. Robert R. Sellers has been designated Prison Officer. Sergeant John Quinan, Medical Department, has been detailed as Provost Sergeant.

MELODRAMA

"The Prospector's Claim" is the name of the thrilling melodrama presented at the Red Cross House Wednesday night by a few members of the Detachment and for the entertainment of the patients. The playlet contained all the characters necessary to make it an absorbing drama. There was a Texas cowboy, a prospector, a bad Indian, and a cowgirl. Then there was a valuable claim which a slick city chap was trying to buy for a song and there was also plenty of knife work and shooting.

Private Wilson and his sturdy gang of thespians deserve much credit for their presentation of the piece. They had more than their share of the misfortune that so frequently accompanies the amateur. The scenery left much to the imagination and the gun manipulated by Chief Yellow Hand refused to go off just when it was time for the Chief to shoot Joe Thomas in the back. Joe (Private Leonard) refused to get excited, however, even when he heard the tripper snap twice. He simply held the pose until someone fired a gun, off stage, and then he rolled over and died just as satisfactorily as though the act had been done according to the written lines. The Chief then burned down the shack—how he ever got around Lieutenant Barry's strict fire regulations is a mystery—and was making his getaway when the Texas Kid and "Sis" appeared just in time to shoot the bad Chief exactly where he needed a good shot.

Private Wilson was a forceful and interesting character in the role of the cowboy and worked well with his partner, Private Leonard. Wilson also gave a reading, "Lasca," and at the close of the show demonstrated his sharp shooting ability and his deftness in throwing knives at human targets. Leonard was the man who posed or held the target in both these events—and it is quite generally expressed that he can have his job.

The cast:

"Texas" Jack, Private Wilson; Joe Thomas, Private Leonard; Fred Dickinson, Private Donaldson; Chief Yellow Hand, Private Sirmans; "Sis" Thomas, Private Michels.

LOSSES DURING THE MONTH.

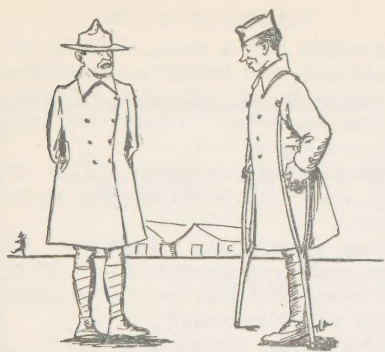
Fire Chief Bill Cohen.
Herman Centre.
Circular 77.
Winter.
Mail.

POSTER COMPETITION.

A second poster competition has been announced by the Graphic Arts Committee, of New York. In a letter to Mrs. C. G. Wheeler-Jones, supervisor of Occupational Aides, the Committee states that cash prizes will be awarded. There will be more details in a subsequent issue of OVER HERE.

BOIL 'EM.

Mr. Maxwell, who drives for the Motor Corps, brought a few dozen fresh eggs for the sick boys. Upon hearing that Miss Rennyson put the names of the boys on the eggs, he said he would see if he could have them laid that way, if it would save her any trouble!



Buddy—Hey, Mac, what did you do with your new arms?

Mac—Aw, they sent me two rights.

HOSPITAL ORDERS.

Effective March 4, 1919, enlisted men patients in the hospital will be allowed free washing of soiled clothing in the hospital laundry. Only the following articles in the quantities indicated will be accepted each week:

1 suit underwear; 2 pairs sock; 1 O. D. shirt; 5 handkerchiefs.

The following promotions in the Detachment, Motor Transport Corps, this hospital, are announced, ranking from February 17, 1919:

To be Sergeant First Class: Sergeant John L. Keethler, M. T. C.

To be Sergeants: Private First Class Samuel Posnak, Privates Charles J. Menosky, Private Peter E. Gagne, Private Albert L. Kezar.

The following promotions in the Detachment, Utilities Department, have been announced:

To be Sergeant:

Corporal William W. Entress.

To be Corporals: Private Roland Hill and Private Martin Peterson.

MUSIC

The plan of having music in the wards Tuesday and Friday afternoons is affording entertainment to the men. Among the singers who have entertained are Edith Chapman Gould and Greta Torpadie. The latter accompanied herself on the guitar.

Musical Director John Heath is conducting the singing in the Red Cross House in the evenings just before the show.

The Armed Guard Hawaiian orchestra, of Brooklyn Barracks, played in the Wards a couple of afternoons. The sailor organization offers interesting programs.

Mr. Heath is organizing a jazz orchestra among the patients. He will be glad to receive the names of any of the men who play. He also proposes organizing a glee club.

LT. NEOVIUS LEAVES.

Second Lieutenant George E. Neovius, of the Physical Therapy department, has gone to Base Hospital, Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich., where he will organize a Physical Therapy department.

NURSES' NEWS.

Miss Cooper, physical therapy Aide, is at home on a ten-day leave.

Miss Wheeler, superintendent of student nurses at Lakewood, N. J., visited here last week.

Miss Stewart, reconstruction Aide, has left for Camp Jackson, S. C.

Miss Helen Hughes, of Ward 4, has gone on furlough to her home in Buffalo.

WARD ROOMERS.

Rapley, the champion heart smasher, continues to knock 'em dead—especially on fine afternoons.

Sergeant Raege got 10 days to go for a visit in Atlanta. He also wants to stop at a \$4 a day hotel. He got as far as New York and was back here in three days. Can't do much on \$17, can you, Sarj?

Poor Ike Klein, Ward 25, had a bad Sunday. He was visiting with his girl when in came nine fair ones who had been invited here by Sergeants Henschell and Lewis. They forgot about the date and that left Klein with ten girls.

The Ward Surgeon and the Aide in Ward 25 are having a continuous argument over the meaning of "symmetrical." Why argue? After all, it's a mere matter of form.

Private Dupont, of Ward 26, found himself in Hoboken the other night and automatically went to the dock where the transports used to load for France. He might be waiting there yet if he had not bought a paper and learned that the war is over.

Have you see Sergeant Gallant do flips and handsprings on his crutches? It's a sight worth seeing.

Private Rapley, of Ward 25, is enjoying his cornet practice—even though no one else is. He has lots of volume and is very willing. The other afternoon he found Clifford taking a nap and Rapley sounded reveille. Clifford was out of bed in a minute and he still is trying to catch the cornetist.

And now comes Leh, orderly in Ward 8, who received a 'phone call the other night, accusing him of sleeping. Gosh, he says, how can a fellow get caught over the 'phone?

Corporal Regan, Marine Corps, of Ward 25, has decided that turpentine is a very poor preventative of music from the joint of his artificial leg. Still it was prescribed by his Reconstruction Aide Miss _____.

Now we know why Knox has plenty of cigarettes and cake. On Saturdays and Sundays (the big days for visitors) he appears in a bath robe and on crutches. Other days he wears the uniform and drives a Ford for exercise.

Corporal Victor Fleming, of the Marine Corps, Ward 8, still holds the pie eating record. During the days when he was in a wheel chair, he could detect a pie the minute the car carrying it passed the city limits of Rahway and, moreover, he could get it. Now he has to depend on his crutches to get him the pie—still he gets it.

YOU TELL 'EM.

A musical contest is being waged in the School squad room. In the northwest corner is the cot of Jimmy Bach, property man and instructor of the Commercial classes. In the southwest corner is Frank Rogge, exemplifier of the art of John Sebastian Bach, the composer. In the center of the squad room is a phonograph donated by the Head Reconstruction Aide. On mornings when his fiddle is not frozen, Rogge prefers to play Bach's Air on the "G" string in place of reveille, which Bach (Jimmy) insists on "Pretty Baby" or some other reminder of these days of the quivering fox-trot. Will the Peace Conference please decide how the two Bachs may be brought together in harmony and for harmony.



A GROUP OF DETACHMENT THESPIANS.

These men are rehearsing "Crooks," to be presented soon. In the group are Sergeant Karstendiek, Joe Ungerer, the K. of C. Secretary; Sergeant Mathewson, Privates Chermol, Billingsley, Dougherty and Benedict.

—Photo by Private Andrees, Ward 9.

NURSE-RY RHYMES.

Minutes of the Meeting.
Place—Nurses' Quarters.
Time—6:30 a. m.
Scene—Dining Room.

Oh! Good morning everybody,
Were you cold last night?
Are those biscuits soggy?
Gee! My hair's a sight.
Just had twenty minutes,
My old alarm is slow,
Got up, switched on my light,
And heard the bugle blow.
Well, this is the army
Of which we are all aware,
Say please pass me the butter?
Is this all on the bill o' fare?
My, it's a quarter to seven,
I had better make my exit,
What hours are you having?
Oh! any time you see fit.
I'm going to work on a sweater
That I've just started to knit;
So long, I'll see you later;
At seven p. m. I quit.
—"THALIA."

PROPS.

The School's property men—Privates Walter W. Kennedy and Edward L. Smith—have the right idea. Their visitors never stay long. When Kennedy and Smith go to work in their office, they lock the door. They have a hinged panel in the door and when a caller knocks they open the panel slightly and learn what's wanted. Naturally the visitor doesn't stay around very long, so Smith and Kennedy are able to return to their work immediately.

The cheery spirit of Ward 4 is shown by the answer the patient made when the Chaplain asked him how he was feeling: "Oh, I can't kick." And, he couldn't kick, owing to recent amputations.

HOSPITAL DIPLOMACY.

Calling a private from the Personnel office "Sergeant" when he appears in the ward with the payroll.

Even though Miss Harvey, the dietitian, may vote against it, we hope they discharge the Ordnance Officers at Raritan immediately.

Another important question: What's to become of hip pockets?

RED HEADED SOLDIERS.

All ye who are thusly afflicted, Beware!
You may be adopted, like Boden*, take care.

*Ward 5.

OFFICERS' CHANGES.

Departed:

Captain Harry H. Wylie, to General Hospital No. 39.

Joined:

Captain Kirby Dwight.

First Lieutenants John M. Gilchrist, Samuel W. Hausman, Harry B. Epstein, John G. Hart and Harold H. Joy.

NO WONDER THEY SMILE!

From a bulletin issued March 1:

"All contributions of food and fruit must be sent direct to the Diet Kitchen, in care of Miss Harvey or Miss Burns."

Lieutenants Barry and Mayo were entering the reservation near the Administration building.

"Halt! Who goes there?" shouted the guard.

"Ah—oh, Officers Quarters!" answered Lieutenant Mayo, a bit confused.

Mercy House has a cashier who looks at the diner and writes down just what he ate. Could an X-ray do more? or even as well?

'T WAS FRIDAY.

Mike—Did ye hear of the fight in the Mess Hall today?

Pat—No. What was it?

Mike—There was a terrible battle; the table was covered with shells.

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ELIZABETH, N. J.

BARRACK BUNK

Frankie Bell is doing a strong arm stunt with the dishes in the kitchen of Mercy House. Frankie will make a fine domestic husband for some girl, some day.

Corporal Oppenheimer, Q. M. C., says every day is Labor Day in his office.

And now that Menoskey has been made a sergeant in the M. T. C., he wears chevrons on his pajamas. What will Kezar say?

The Q. M. Philosopher says: A pretty girl fires a young man's heart with admiration; her father fires the rest of his person with shoe leather.

Private Brooks, returning late, was sure there was a dog in his bed the other night. He pounced on the animal and discovered it to be two powder cans. Fortunately it was talcum, instead of gun.

A number of the boys who witnessed the deed, are urging a medal for Lieut. Fields, who, upon instructions from the O. D., climbed the water tank to observe the gauges. (Note: the O. D. does not do this job himself.)

Electricity may work wonders on injured legs, but the magic words, "All patients remain in ward and get paid at 1 o'clock" do even better work. On last pay day Lavell shouted "That'll straighten my leg" and Stone forgot his crutches in his hurry to get his money.

Now that the boys are organizing a dramatic club we expect to see the boys cultivating marcel waves and graceful gestures.

The Detachment office has been enlarged by taking in the corridor which used to be a thoroughfare. It helps keep the cold air out of Squad Room No. 1.

Here are a few additional horrors of war which haven't been printed this month. They are awfully good, we think. If you like 'em, tell your enemies; if not, park yourselves at an angle of 45 degrees and read the billboards:

Why is money like a woman? Money talks.****What is the difference between Italy and Austria? Austria is starving while Italy is getting Hungary.****When are soldiers like a cannon? When discharged.****When you set type, what do you often hatch? Trouble.****What great trait did the Germans acquire in the war? Politeness; because, even in defeat, they learned to say "Thanks."

Guards, do your duty!

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